

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, IN, US

SUBJ: INDIAN FEELERS ON NEW CONGEN IN CHICAGO

1. MEA TEJA RECENTLY TOLD DCM THAT GOI HAD DECIDED TO REQUEST THIRD CONGEN (IN CHICAGO) TO MATCH THE THREE US CONGENS IN INDIA. HAS THIS SUBJECT COME UP IN WASHINGTON YET?

2. THE PROBLEM OF THE STATUS OF CONGEN CALCUTTA'S CONSULAR DISTRICT REMAINS UNRESOLVED WITH GOI. MOST RECENTLY (MID-NOV) GOI TURNED DOWN REQUEST FOR CONGEN KORN TO GO TO NE INDIA ALONG WITH EMBOFF, NOTING THAT KORN COULD GO ON PERSONAL VISIT BUT NOT OFFICIALLY SINCE AREA WAS NOT IN CONGEN'S CONSULAR DISTRICT.

3. WE BELIEVE SUBJECT OF OUR CONSULAR DISTRICT PROBLEM MIGHT BE RAISED WITH INDIANS IN WASHINGTON IF AND WHEN THEY RAISE QUESTION OF NEW CONSULATE IN CHICAGO. ONE OPTION MIGHT BE FOR US TO ARBITRARILY DETERMINE CONSULAR DISTRICT FOR INDIANS IN CHICAGO, LIMITING IT TO ONLY FEW STATES. INITIALLY, HOWEVER, EMBASSY WOULD SUGGEST THAT US POSITION SIMPLY BE TO NOTE CONTINUED UNRESOLVED STATUS OF CALCUTTA CONSULAR DISTRICT PROBLEM IN RECEIVING ANY INDIAN REQUEST AND TO SUGGEST WE SEE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN SOLUTION OF OUR PROBLEM AND THEIR REQUEST.
SAXBE

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